



**Directorate of
Intelligence**

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Japanese researchers announced in early August 1985 that they had demonstrated the technical feasibility of uranium enrichment by molecular laser isotope separation (MLIS) techniques;

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JAPAN: MOLECULAR LASER ISOTOPE SEPARATION

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Researchers from Japan's Institute of Physical and Chemical Research announced in early August 1985 that they had confirmed the technical feasibility of uranium enrichment by molecular laser isotope separation (MLIS) techniques. The Japanese irradiated 60 milligrams (mg) of cooled (240 degrees Kelvin (K)) uranium hexafluoride for 30 hours and collected 6 mg of uranium enriched to about 0.75 percent (the natural uranium feed material contained 0.72 percent U-235).

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